Ministries\Departments concerned for final comments before seeking the approval of the Cabinet.

World Congress of Alternative Medicines Hosted by the Zoroastian College, Mumbai

1132. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that World Congress of Alternative medicines was hosted by the Zoroastian College in January this year at Mumbai;

(b) whether the discussions held at the said Congress covered wide range of method adopted by various systems;

(c) if so, the subjects covered;

(d) whether any help or assistance have been sought from Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Polio Immunisation in Remote and Tribal Areas of the Country

1133. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many children below five years were given oral polio drops in the first and second phases of recent polio immunisation drive in the country with State-wise and Union Territory-wise details thereof;

(b) whether the drive had covered the remote tribal areas in the country particularly in Maharashtra:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to ensure polio immunisation in the remote and tribal areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) The Statements showing State-wise coverage of both rounds of pulse polio immunisation drive are annexed. [*See Appendix 180, Annexure No. 28*]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Separate figures for tribal coverage were not collected. However, the steps taken especially in tribal areas for maximum coverage during the said drive were as under.

(i) Enumeration and enlistment of beneficiaries throught Health workers & Anganwadi Workers by house to house visits.

(ii) Intensive IEC activities in local languages for wide publicity through house to house visits, use of loudspeakers, drum beating, audio cassettes in every tribal village and padas (hamlets).

(iii) The children in the schools were given the pulse polio immunisation messages to carry at home and also to bring the children from their homes and neighbourhoods.

(iv) Students' rallies were organized in all the villages.

(v) Polio booth was established in each and every village to enhance accessibility and availability of immunisation facility. Vaccine was carried in cold boxes to the remote polio immunisation booths.

Scheme for Treatment of T.B. in Collaboration with the World Bank in Bihar

1134. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the treatment of T.B. in collaboration with the World Bank in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work under the said schemes has been started; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (d) A pilot project for implementation of the revised strategy for National TB Control programme is being implemented with World Bank assistance in Vaishali district of Bihar. The Government has also recently negotiated a project for TB Control Programme in India with the World Bank. This project involves extension of implementation of revised strategy for National TB Programme to seven more districts of Bihar, besides providing additional inputs to strengthen the State TB Control unit and the District TB Centre where Short Course Chemotherapy is being implemented, apart from providing drugs & for sputum negative cases in all the districts. The credit agreement with the World Bank for the negotiated project is yet to be signed and only preparatory work for implementation of the project is being undertaken in all the States including Bihar.

New Biosanitiser Bacteria to Purify Waste Water

1135. SHRI VED PRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in Economic Times of 15.12.96 that a new biosanitiser bacteria has been isolated to purify waste water; and

(b) whether it has been developed to a level of commercial application and any plant has been set up from which actual field data may be available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Different microbial cultures have been isolated at various institutions for the treatment of waste water and some of these cultures are already being used for waste water

Sale of Fake Medicines in the name of Herbal Medicines

1136. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many companies are selling chemical medicine in the name of herbal medicine and devaluing the market of real Ayurvedic treatment;

(b) the steps Government propose to check this trend; and

(c) whether there is any ensuing system to scrutiny a medicine making unit for the quality control of Ayurvedic medicines and for checking fake medicines coming in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) The definition of Ayurveda, Siddha or Unani Drug brand a patent and proprietary medicine is given in Section 3(a) and Section 3(h) respectively of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act. The procedure of manufacture for sale and quality control measures of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Drugs have been laid down in the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules. These activities fall within the purview of State Governments.

The Government of India has been requesting State Governments to strictly enforce the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the Rules made thereunder.

Need for Reorientation Course for Doctors

1137. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the latest inventions and developments taking place in Medical Science;

(b) whether Government feels that our doctors require reorientation course to update their knowledge;

(c) whether Government propose to arrange refresher courses for our Doctors by organising Seminars and inviting experts from advanced